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Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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S E C R E T USUN 5122

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, AO
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH MPLA REP. FIGUEIREDO, NOVEMBER 9

1. AT FIGUEIREDO'S REQUEST, AMBASSADOR SHERER AND MISOFF MET WITH HIM AT UN, MORNING NOVEMBER 9.

2. FIGUEIREDO VOLUNTEERED THAT GOA WAS HOPEFUL CONCERNING PROGRESS IN GENEVA ON RHODESIA, WHICH PROGRESS IT ENCOURAGED. ANGOLA ALSO HOPED SECRETARY KISSINGER MIGHT TRAVEL TO GENEVA, TO ASSIST IN NEGOTIATIONS. FIGUEIREDO EXPLAINED THAT GRAVITY OF RHODESIAN ATTACK INTO MOZAMBIQUE HAD NECESSITATED WEEKEND MEETING OF FRONT-LINE PRESIDENTS.

3. FIGUEIREDO SAID THAT HE KNEW OF OUR CONCERN OVER THE CUBAN PRESENCE -- TROOPS HAVE BEEN, AND WOULD BE WITHDRAWN. CUBAN MILITARY REMAIN, AS ALSO DO CUBAN TEACHERS AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

4. FIGUEIREDO DESCRIBED ABOVE BRIEFING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF TYPE OF OPEN COMMUNICATIONS WHICH ANGOLA WISHES TO MAINTAIN WITH USG.

5. FIGUEIREDO STATED THAT HE EXPECTS DEPOSIT NEW ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION NOVEMBER 9, FOR CONSIDERATION AT AFTERNOON SC CONSULTATIONS. HE APPEALED FOR AT LEAST A US ABSTENTION. HE SAID ANGOLA DID NOT WANT ITS APPLICATION CONFUSED WITH CONSIDERATION OF THAT
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OF VIETNAM. ACCORDINGLY, IF LATTER'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICA-

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TION IS DELAYED UNTIL LATER IN NOVEMBER, ANGOLANS WANT THEIR APPLICATION TO BE HANDLED BY COUNCIL NEXT WEEK.

6. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT FIGHTING IS GOING ON IN ANGOLA AGAINST UNITA, "WHICH IS SUPPORTED BY ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE," DESPITE MPLA APPEALS AND WARNINGS TO THOSE GOVERNMENTS. FIGUEIREDO PREDICTABLY WAS CERTAIN OVER OUTCOME OF MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST UNITA. HE ALSO ATTRIBUTED LITTLE SIGNIFICANCE TO MOVE OF ANGOLAN PRIME MINISTER TO PARTY FUNCTIONS. FIGUEIREDO EXPLAINED THAT PRIME MINISTER WAS MOVING AT HIS OWN REQUEST, "ALWAYS" HAVING WANTED TO WORK WITH PARTY RATHER THAN GOVERNMENT.

7. FIGUEIREDO REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES DURING CONVERSATION THAT ONCE IN UN HIS GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO HAVE CLOSEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.
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